

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1254**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Coto**

February 22, 2005

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An act relating to preschool.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1254, as introduced, Coto. Preschool teachers: limited English proficiency.

Existing law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to administer state preschool programs including, but not be limited to, part-day and preschool appropriate programs for prekindergarten children 3 to 5 years of age, in educational development, health services, social services, nutritional services, parent education and parent participation, evaluation, and staff development.

This bill would make certain findings and declarations, and would provide the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that, among other things, improves the professional development of preschool teachers to provide instruction to limited-English-proficient children.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares that quality
- 2 instruction begins with well prepared teachers, including teachers
- 3 who possess the necessary linguistic skills demanded by an
- 4 increasingly diverse pupil population.
- 5 SEC. 2. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation
- 6 that accomplishes all of the following:

- 1 (a) Establishes a mechanism for enhancing the training and
- 2 qualifications of preschool teachers to provide instruction to
- 3 limited-English-proficient children.
- 4 (b) Increases the number of highly qualified preschool
- 5 teachers and other personnel with expertise in working with
- 6 limited-English-proficient children and their families.
- 7 (c) Improves the early education of limited-English proficient
- 8 children.